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Title: Need to control discharge of industrial effluents into Santara creek of river Mahanadi by the refinery of Indian Oil Corporation Limited at Paradip in Odisha.

DR. KULAMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR): The Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) established its refinery at Paradip over 3344 acres of land along the Santra creek and Atharbanki creek of river Mahanadi. The inhabitants residing along these creeks mostly belong to Fishing and farming communities. They depend largely upon the water sources either to do pisciculture or cultivate their land. Over the past couple of months, it is learnt that the Refinery of Indian Oil Corporation Limited at Paradip is discharging the hazardous effluents into the nearby Santra creek. Consequently, a large number of dead fishes and aquatic species are seen drifting along the water bodies and creeks where the oil refinery project of Indian Oil Corporation Limited is established. In spite of many appeals of the people's representatives and local people of the area, the authority of IOCL is not taking any action to control the effluents being discharged into the water bodies. As a result, the fishing community depending upon the water sources is facing a lot of difficulties to manage their livelihood. The same is the case with the farmers also who are apprehensive that their agricultural field may lose its fertility thereby affecting the level of production. It is to mention that the Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIR) policy of 2007 is aimed at development of industrial clusters with an integrated and environment friendly manner in order to achieve synergies and sustainable development of the area. But IOCL as one of the most prestigious and capital-intensive project at Paradip has been violating the very approach of PCPIR policy of 2007. Hence, I would like to draw the attention of Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas as well as Minister of Enviornment, Forest and Climate Change to look into the matter and initiate appropriate action to safeguard the interest of poor fishing and farming Communities of the area.